UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
PAKISTAN

IPF: (1987-91) $73 299 000

(PAK/89/031) - International Support for the Preservation and Development of Archaeological Site of Moenjodaro

Date of approval:	14 February 1991
Expected duration:	36 months
Proposed executing agency:	UNESCO
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Culture and Tourism (Authority for the preservation of Moenjodaro)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$595 000 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$595 000

Project background

The archaeological site of Moenjodaro which is inscribed on the World Heritage List, bears witness to a very ancient civilization, that flourished between 2500 and 1500 B.C. Located approximately 200 miles north of Karachi, it has been described as "one of the greatest metropolises of the most ancient East".

The main excavation of the site began in 1922 and continued up to 1931. To date approximately 800,000 sq. meters have been exposed, estimated to be about 10 per cent of the total site. At the time excavation began in 1922, the water level was recorded at 25 feet below the surface. This gradually rose to 15 feet in winter and 7 feet in the summer due to the building of the Sukkur Barrage and the rise of water through the action of capillarity.

The second serious threat is posed by the river Indus where bed has shifted considerably over the years and has clearly flooded Moenjodaro in the past. Conventional methods to arrest deterioration were taken by the Government of Pakistan with limited success. In 1960 it approached UNESCO for technical assistance. This resulted in various technical missions and a panel of experts meeting which formulated the Master Plan for the preservation of Moenjodaro in 1973 and culminating in a formal agreement in 1979. Consequently, two rounds of formal appeal were launched.

Description of project

The long-term objective of the Government within the framework of the Five-year Plan for 1988-93 is to give priority to safeguard archaeological sites with a view to enhance the national/cultural value and cultural tourism.

UNDP will provide institution building support to augment the government's capacity to preserve and present the cultural heritage, tourism and education through an integrated approach by improving the linkages between the preservation of cultural heritage, tourism and education. This will result in: (a) preparing an overall plan for Moenjodaro with a consolidated approach, including a detailed Action Plan and Promotion/Communication/Marketing Plan, and producing promotional and communications materials; (b) setting up a conservation laboratory and a semi-autonomous conservation unit; and (c) training conservation unit personnel and managerial staff of the Authority to a level where they are able to handle the technical, managerial, and fund-raising elements for the ongoing preservation.

Inputs

UNDP will provide the services of international experts/consultants in archaeological conservation (12 work-months), planning and management (six work-months), promotion and communication/marketing (three work-months) and cultural tourism (one work-month); three fellowships and group training; laboratory equipment, photographic supplies, audio-visual and office equipment; vehicles and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	194 200
Subcontract	111 000
Training	130 400
Equipment	117 400
Miscellaneous	42 000
Total	595 000

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